

Filed for intro on 02/08/95
Senate Bill _____
By _____

House No. HB0876
By Chumney

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 3, Part 6, relative to the reporting of certain types of abuse.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 3, Part 6, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Any person, including, but not limited to, any physician, osteopathic physician, medical examiner, chiropractor, nurse or hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care or treatment of persons, having knowledge of or called upon to render aid to any adult who is suffering from or has sustained any wound, injury, disability, or physical or mental condition which is of such a nature as to reasonably indicate that it has been caused by the abuse of a family or household member, as such terms are defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-3-601, shall report such harm immediately, by telephone or otherwise, to the appropriate authority. Such person,

or such person's designee shall also file a written report of the suspected abuse as provided in subsection (b).

(b) The written report required by subsection (a) of this section shall include, to the extent known by the reporter, the name, address, and age of the abused person, the name and address of the person's primary family or household member and the facts requiring the report. The report may include any other pertinent information.

(c) Any person required to report or investigate cases of suspected spouse abuse who has reasonable cause to suspect that a person died as a result of spouse abuse shall report such suspicion to the appropriate medical examiner. The medical examiner shall accept the report for investigation and shall report the medical examiner's findings, in writing, to the appropriate district attorney general.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1995, the public welfare requiring it.

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